

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-4422

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic 315 West Baltimore Street

and/or common Avis Rent-A-Car/Parking

2. Location

street & number 315 W. Baltimore Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of congressional district Seventh

state Maryland county Baltimore

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Sally Sue Thomas

street & number 6615 Reisterstown Road, Room 301 telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code MD 21215

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds Baltimore City Courthouse SEB 103

street & number 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610 folio 95

city, town Baltimore state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. B-4421

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1960 parking garage, currently a car rental business, faces north on West Baltimore Street and abuts two partywall structures. The concrete structure is two bays wide and four stories high. The street frontage is 64'1" and the depth is 171'6".

The first story has a large open bay to the east with three painted rows demarcating the entrance/exit. Three stop and go traffic lights are positioned over the top of the bay. The rental office is in the second bay. It has a glazed window wall that is subdivided into six sections. Double glass doors fill the first two bays, and a window band fills the remaining four bays. The windows are set above a cinder block foundation. The wall around the rental office is also set in cinder block. The east side of the rental office is a glass curtain wall with a glass door; this wall faces into the garage.

The upper parking tiers have low concrete walls that are open to the elements. The three concrete walls are embellished with three incised horizontal grooves. A row of posts divide the first and second bays. The rooftop parking has no overhead shelter.

The interior of the garage has reinforced concrete ceilings supported by structural bays of concrete lintels and posts.

8. Significance

Survey No.

B-4421

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This 1960s parking structure is a significant building type in the Baltimore commercial streetscape. The need for parking structures is a twentieth-century phenomenon that accompanied that rise of the automobile--a need that burgeoned in the post-war period. The four-story height of this structure indicates the increasing density of traffic and the need for parking in the downtown district, a need for both office workers and shoppers. The garage also indicates the prevalence of commuter traffic in the downtown area in the post-War period and, as such, makes a contrast with the residential nature of the downtown in the nineteenth-century. The location of the parking structure also indicates the heavy traffic along Baltimore Street.

The style of the garage is a good example of a circa 1960s functional aesthetic. Similarly, the interior of the garage exposes its internal structure. The reinforced concrete posts and beams form a functional aesthetic which is deemed appropriate for the structure and is typically never covered up.

The conversion of the space to a car rental agency and their parking lot is an interesting twist in this building's role as a transportation oriented facility.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4421

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street (Washington: Preservation Press, 1987).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Shaw, Architectural Historianorganization CHAP, Room 1037date December 21, 1991street & number 417 E. Fayette Streettelephone 301-396-4866city or town Baltimorestate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCL
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-314-2500

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Modern Period, 1930-present

Historic Period Themes:
Architecture
Economics

Resource Type:
Building

Historic Environment:
Urban

Historic Function and Use:
Transportation

Known Design Source:
None

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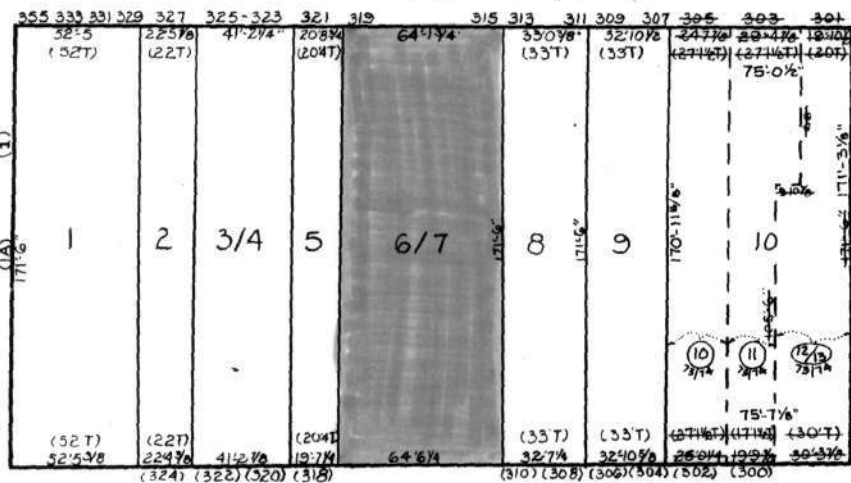
632

W. BALTIMORE

ST.

S. EUTAW

S. HOWARD



W. REDWOOD

ST.

655

644

DRAWN BY P. WAINWRIGHT

CHECKED BY P.W.

DATE

NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER. IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

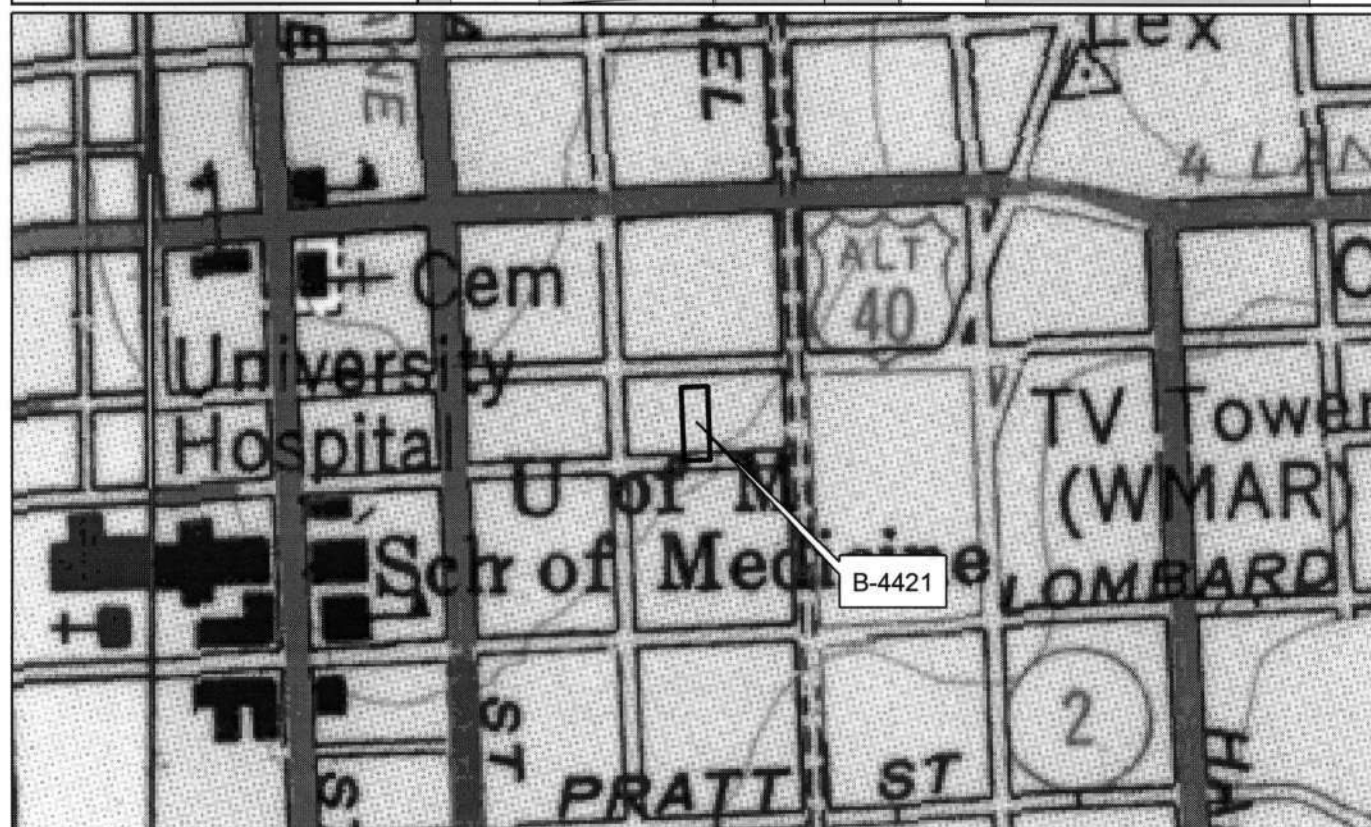
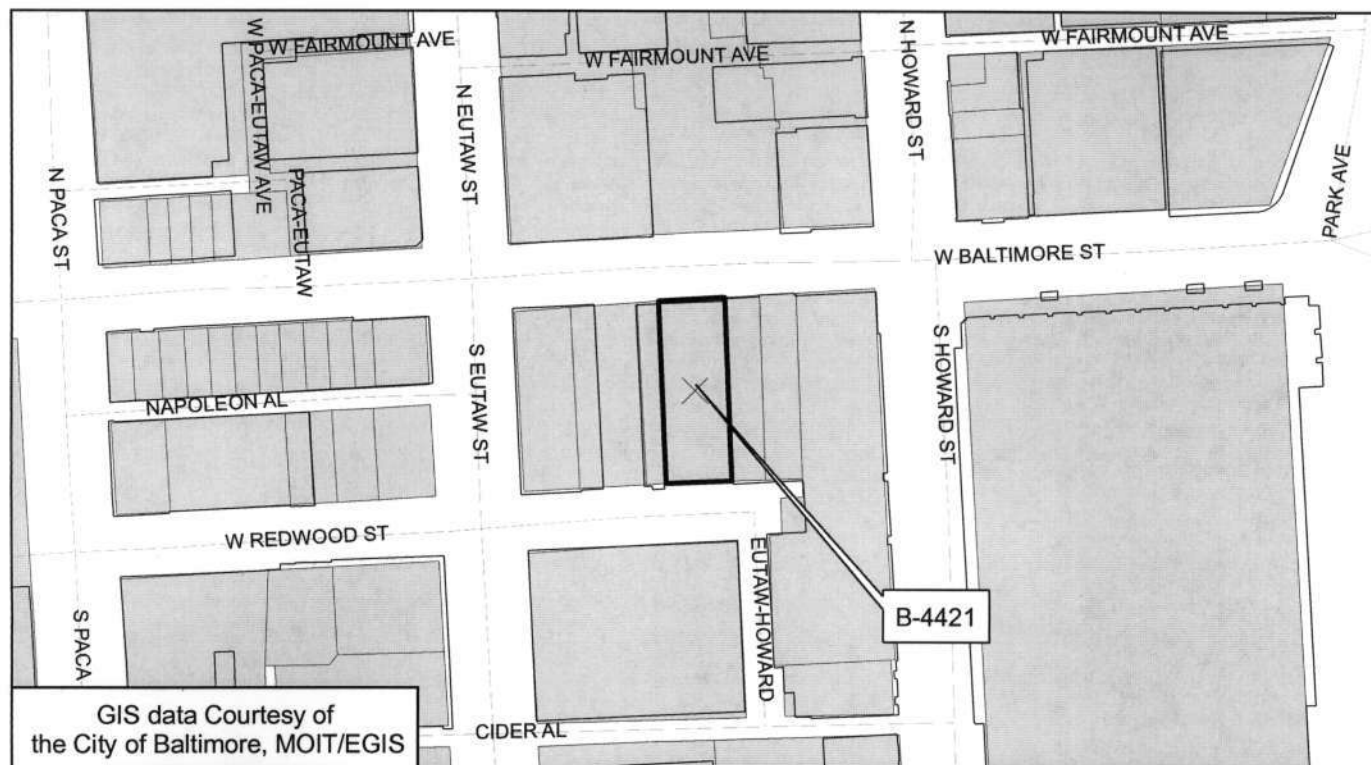
CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 4 SECTION 10
BLOCK 643

SCALE 1"=50'-0" DATE DEC. 1966

B-4421
Avis Rent-A-Car/Parking
315 W. Baltimore Street
Block 643 Lot 006
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-4421

315 W. Baltimore St. / Arts Rental

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

Facade, north elevation

1/1